

Over in the Senate, Senator BOB KERREY said, "Cutting \$800 billion," cutting \$800 billion, giving it back to the people, "when you've got \$3 trillion coming in is hardly an outrageous, irresponsible move."

Two-thirds of the surplus should go for retirement security and Medicare, and that is what we have done, and one-third for tax relief. It is a balanced and sensible plan. Americans want, need, and deserve tax relief today.

#### VOTE FOR DEMOCRATIC ALTERNATIVE TAX BILL

(Mr. WISE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, today financial irresponsibility does not just tiptoe through this Chamber. It does not walk softly; it gallops. It runs amok.

Because what is going to happen is, this House is going to take up a tax bill that is the height of fiscal and financial irresponsibility.

I support paying down the national debt. I support saving Social Security. I support saving Medicare and making sure that it is secure. Then and only then, giving targeted tax cuts, tax cuts to working people, tax cuts for child care, tax cuts that are strictly targeted to accomplish certain ends. But, unfortunately, this is not the proposal before us. This is a large tax bill that ignores all of that.

I would just say to those who say we can do this safely over a 10- or 15-year period, when their investment broker tells them they know what the employment is going to be in 2004, do they take that seriously? That is about how seriously I take this tax proposal.

Vote instead for the Democratic alternative that saves Social Security, pays down the national debt, and has targeted tax cuts and targeted only.

#### TAX AND SPEND DEMOCRATS WILL NOT BE HAPPY UNTIL EVERY AMERICAN IS POOR

(Mr. SCHAFFER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I have been listening to my Democrat colleagues repeat one after another "tax cuts for the wealthy, tax cuts for the wealthy," so many times over the past few days that I have come to a few conclusions. These conclusions are based on what they themselves say about what is in our tax relief package.

One might be rich if one wants to save for one's child's education. One might be rich if one wants to have health insurance. One might be rich if one's company or union contributes to a pension fund. One might be rich if one wants to save for one's retirement. One might be rich if one wears a wed-

ding ring on one's finger. One might be rich if one is a senior who wants to work. One might be rich if one cares for a senior at home. One might be rich if one has a child in day care. And one just might be rich if one pays even 1 penny in Federal income taxes.

In other words, the tax and spend Democrats in Washington will never be happy until every American is poor.

#### OUR MONEY IS WHERE OUR VALUES ARE

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, for the first time in 3 decades, the Federal Government projects a surplus. Congress is faced with using this surplus in a way that reflects our values as a Nation.

Democrats propose that we strengthen Social Security, strengthen Medicare, pay down the national debt, and provide targeted tax cuts to middle-class families.

Republicans want to use this surplus for a one-time tax break that mostly benefits the wealthy and jeopardizes our economic health.

Our money is where our values are. The Republican tax plan will force deep cuts in crime, education, national defense, and risks returning our Nation to an era of big deficits. Medicare is a pillar of retirement security that provides our parents with independence and dignity in their later years. It says that I am willing to work for my mother and father and that my children are ready to work for me and for my husband.

The Republican tax scheme saves not 1 penny for Medicare. It lets it slowly twist in the wind. This surplus should be used in a way that reinforces and bolsters our values. Anything less is irresponsible.

#### HOURLY OF MEETING ON THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1999

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 11 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

#### APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2465, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 2465) making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the De-

partment of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is not prepared to appoint conferees at this time. Those conferees will be appointed later in the day.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2465, making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, and that I may be allowed to include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

#### APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 2490, TREASURY AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill H.R. 2490, making appropriations for the Treasury Department, the United States Postal Service, the Executive Office of the President, and certain independent agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

□ 1045

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURR of North Carolina). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR. OLVER

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct conferees.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. OLVER moves that in resolving the differences between the House and Senate, the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill, H.R. 2490, be instructed to restore \$50 million in funding for the IRS to complete its Year 2000 compliance work to ensure that taxpayers receive their refunds in the year 2000.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. OLVER) will be recognized for 30 minutes, and the gentleman from